U.S. EPA Region 8 RCRA Corrective Action Program

Hamilton Sundstrand Facility, Adams County, CO Fact Sheet August 2006

Introduction

This fact sheet describes on-going investigations concerning contamination in and around the Hamilton Sundstrand property. It also provides information about interim measures taken by the company to address on-site and off-site contamination and planned next steps.

Background

In 1999, CDPHE requested EPA to be the lead agency for the cleanup of the facility. EPA and CDPHE are working together to ensure that all applicable RCRA corrective action requirements are met. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) is the law governing cleanup of contamination from operations of facilities like the Hamilton Sundstrand.

The company has conducted onsite and offsite investigations of contamination under approved work plans. These investigations were required as part of a RCRA corrective action consent agreement between Hamilton Sundstrand and EPA dated August 16, 2000. Contaminants of concern include chlorinated solvents in the soils and ground water.

Hamilton Sundstrand ceased operations and closed in January 2004. Most buildings at the plant are now empty and most individuals now on site are investigating environmental contamination.

On-going Activities

RCRA Facility Investigations (RFI) focused on identifying the full nature and extent of contamination in soil, ground water, and surface water. This includes investigations related to the extent of light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL). Most of the work in the residential area addressed indoor air issues likely caused by contaminated ground water (see Indoor Air Report dated January 2003). As most of the work has been completed in the residential area, current investigations focus on non-residential areas including the former plant area and the acquired properties (open fields) to Clear Creek.

Interim measures include waste unit removal actions, operation of ventilation systems in homes, and operation of a ground-water barrier system on the east facility boundary. (Note: The ventilation systems were installed by Hamilton Sundstrand and are now being operated by homeowners.) The facility has achieved EPA environmental

indicators for protecting human health and controlling ground-water contamination. In May 2004, Hamilton Sundstrand received EPA's National Environmental Achievement Award for its cleanup work at the facility.

A public meeting was held on July 18, 2006, at the F.M. Day Elementary School. The meeting provided an update of ongoing activities, and was well attended (over 75 people).

A human health and ecological risk assessment is also being conducted. These assessments will be included in the RFI report.

Current plans include the following:

- ARCADIS, a consulting and remediation firm, will take responsibility for the site cleanup.
- CARMA, a company experienced in developing communities, will work to redevelop the site for a variety of uses including residential, businesses, and recreational uses
- EPA and CDPHE will work with the parties to transfer lead for corrective action at the site back to the State. This will take place under the state Integrated Corrective Action Plan (ICAP) process. A draft ICAP proposal has been submitted and is under review by EPA and CDPHE. If the process is successful, the CDPHE would take over responsibilities for overseeing corrective action and site clean-up activities. This would lead to EPA terminating its corrective action order.

Next Steps

Hamilton Sundstrand completed the site investigations and submitted a draft RCRA Facilities Investigation Summary Report on August 11, 2006 which is under review. Although, EPA determined that a formal comment period for the draft RFI report is not necessary, comments will be taken from the public. This report will include both the residential and non-residential area investigations. Following approval of the draft RFI Report, the facility must submit a Corrective Measures Study Work Plan which proposes actions to be taken to control contamination. A formal comment period will be held concerning the remedy selection found in the Corrective Measures Study (CMS) when it is completed in the near future.

Information Repository

A complete information repository for all corrective action activities is being maintained by Hamilton Sundstrand at:

Perl Mack Library 7611 Hilltop Circle Denver, CO

Contact Information

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